

Water Plan Steering Committee Issues and Initiatives for Update 2009

Water Quality (10 SC Members)

- Make pollution prevention a focus.
- Address impacts of emerging contaminants.
- Improve source water quality. (Save money on clean up and pass-through quality issues)
- Consider benefits of restoring impaired water bodies.
- Determine need for emergency assistance.
- Address Lake Tahoe 316b issues and effects on water dependent recreation.
- Consider population growth impacts on waste water treatment.
- Consider long-term impact of salinity accumulation/concentration.
- Consider water quality for everything water plan “touches”.
- Utilize SWAMP and GAMA surface and ground water ambient quality data initiatives.
- Consider impediments to using recycled water for groundwater recharge.
- Consider impacts of pump out stations, floating restrooms at marinas.

Climate Change (7 SC Members)

- Maximize renewable opportunities.
- Determine how CC affects wildfire behavior.
- Document current and future impacts on California water resources and systems.
- Recommend adaptation strategy.

Regional Coordination and IRWM Planning (6 SC Members)

- Determine how to achieve more regional self sufficiency, especially in coastal communities.
- Determine where multiple benefits can be provided.
- Provide outreach and education.
- Use SC to advance the process.
- Make sure planning efforts are consistent, inclusive, and of sufficient quality.
- Make sure IRWMP is providing the future we expect.

Land Management/Smart Growth (5 SC Members)

- Determine nexus between land and water management (quality, resources, energy, and flood protection).
- Utilize Urban Forests for mitigation of water quality and energy consumption.
- Consider preservation of Heritage Lands.
- Incorporate low impact development initiative/scenario as part of Water Plan.
- Determine best management practices to develop housing and commercial development.

Improve Data and Analytical Tools (5 SC Members)

- Integrate data and information exchange.
- Improve system management.
- Provide greater emphasis on water conservation.

Water Plan Steering Committee Issues and Initiatives for Update 2009

- Determine impact of management options on local and statewide economies.
- Provide alternative development scenarios.

Environmental (4 SC Members)

- Consider impacts and benefits of wetland and riparian restoration and management.
- Consider water rights acquisition for fish and wildlife.
- Dedicate instream flows for fish and wildlife benefits.
- Increase attention to Public Trust Doctrine.
- Include the Statewide Watershed Program.

Energy-Water Relationship (3 SC Members)

- Refine the nexus between energy and water.
- Quantify benefits of energy and water conservation.
- Consider impacts of Power Plant Cooling and changing regulations.
- Determine ways to meet 20% renewable generation goal.
- Maximize the benefits of managing systems as a whole.
- Utilize Urban Forests for mitigation of water quality and energy consumption.
- Determine benefits and tradeoffs of smart growth on water and energy efficiency.
- Determine benefits of leak detection to water and energy savings.
- Encourage regional wastewater treatment plants in lieu of multiple local plants.

Invasive Species (3 SC Members)

- Consider benefits of weed management.
- Manage to prevent food web impacts on aquatic and terrestrial species.
- Consider impacts of aquatic weeds.

Infrastructure (3 SC Members)

- Make drinking water distribution systems as a standalone resource management strategy.
- Determine challenges/opportunities of deteriorating systems and replacement.
- Determine opportunities from leak detection in distribution pipes, like water and energy savings.
- Address aging underground pipes.
- Consider how to provide for asset management.
- Consider impact of project design issues.

Tribal Outreach/Environmental Justice/ (2 SC Members)

- Determine CA Tribal status relative to state agency regulated authority.
- Determine tribal eligibility for State government assistance.
- Tribal Outreach - determine what forums can best communicate water plan issues.
- Ensure participation - need tribal outreach effort.
- Address tribal drought flood contingency planning.
- Consider low income protection and affordability.
- Identify methods to provide water policy education.

Water Plan Steering Committee Issues and Initiatives for Update 2009

Delta (2 SC Members)

- Report/include Delta Vision and Strategic Plan
- Determine the impact of reduced exports from the Delta.

Recreation (2 SC Members)

- Give recreation higher priority in decision making.
- Use new survey data to determine recreational needs.
- Coordinate efforts with water release programs and affected recreation providers.
- Consider access to boating.
- Consider impacts of aquatic weeds.

Overarching/ Policy (2 SC Members)

- Provide a more user friendly document
- Consider the State planning priorities in AB857.
- Provide for multi-objective planning.

Integrate Flood Management and Water Management (Added by DWR)

- Coordinate updates of CA Water Plan and CA Flood Plan.
- Coordinate regional planning/outreach.
- Include flood and floodplain management in IRWM plans

Process Topics

Funding/Resources (5 SC Members)

- Strategic use and Proposition 84 funds.
- Advise on \$ for multiple uses. (How groups can use more efficiently)
- Impact of State Bond investments on water supply and demand.
- Describe how to participate in proposition 84 funding.
- Provide funding assistance for State staff participation in Water Plan process.

Water Financing (Added by DWR)

- Consider how to get it all done.
- Identify mechanisms for financing implementation.
- Consider that without financing everything can be left undone.
- Consider the impact of Proposition 218 which requires water rates must be approved by voters.

Agency Coordination (4 SC Members)

- Interfacing Water Plan with SWP, CVP, and other inter-regional water projects.
- Interface with Department of Conservation's Watershed Coordinator Grant Program.
- Integrating water issues with State Parks issues - vertical collaboration.
- CALFED coordination; ERP implementation.
- New DFG Water Branch provides an opportunity to coordinate with Water Plan.